

General Hunting Rules

Wounding and Retrieving

No person shall wound or kill any upland game bird, upland game animal or furbearer without making a reasonable effort to retrieve it and reduce it to possession. Every upland game bird, upland game animal or furbearer wounded by hunting and reduced to possession shall be killed immediately and become a part of the daily bag limit.

It Is Unlawful

- To hunt on cultivated or posted private lands without permission. See Trespass Law, page 52.
- To hunt or take any wildlife without a valid hunting license on your person.
- To take any game without the proper tag or permit.
- To shoot from or across the traveled portion, shoulders, or embankments of any road maintained by any government entity.
- To hunt game from any motorized vehicle, except for holders of a valid handicapped persons Motor Vehicle Hunting Permit.
- To operate any vehicle in an area designated as closed for that specific vehicle type.
- To operate a motor vehicle in violation of area, trail or road restriction.
- To use aircraft to locate game and communicate location to persons on the ground, or to use any helicopter to transport hunters, gear or game except at established landing fields.
- For all hunters, anglers and trappers, with or without game or fish, to not stop and report at any check station established to inspect licenses and fish and game – even if hunting, fishing or trapping was done outside the state of Idaho.
- To fail to produce wildlife in possession for inspection upon request of a conservation officer or other person authorized to enforce Idaho Department of Fish and Game laws.
- To hunt any animal or bird by aid of a spotlight, flashlight or artificial light of any kind; except unprotected or predatory animals on private land after obtaining written permission and on public lands after obtaining a permit. It is lawful to hunt raccoons on public lands without a permit if such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances, or regulations.
- To cause or allow the waste of meat from any game animal, except a bear, mountain lion or wolf.
- To transfer any license, tag, or permit or use another's license, tag, or permit.
- To party hunt, or help fill another hunter's bag.
- To take more animals than the hunter has legal tags for that species.
- To destroy or disturb traps or remove any wildlife from traps belonging to others.
- To enter Idaho with livestock without a health certificate for transport and a brand inspection slip.
- To intentionally interfere with the lawful taking of wildlife or lawful predator control by another.
- To hunt any game animal/bird by means of baiting with grain, salt in any form (liquid or solid), or any other substance (not to include liquid scents) to constitute an attraction or enticement, with the exception of applicable rules for the black bear baiting permit.
- To possess or transport game or parts (including processed meat) taken by another person without having a proxy statement.

Identification of Species in Possession, Transportation or Shipment

Any person in possession of or transporting harvested game that has been lawfully taken and reduced to possession must comply with the following requirements:

- No person shall transport for another, receive for cleaning, processing, or storage, or accept as a gift any harvested game unless it is accompanied by a written "proxy" statement signed by the taker. A blank proxy statement appears in this brochure on page 49; it must be filled out completely for the appropriate species to be valid. Migratory game birds accepted as a gift shall apply to the recipient's possession limit. Migratory game birds being temporarily possessed or transported for the taker, as provided above, shall not apply to the non-taker's possession limit.
- Any time big game, turkeys, or sandhill cranes are transported, a validated tag must be attached to the largest portion of the carcass. In addition, the taker must be in possession of the appropriate hunting license and permits. Any person transporting big game for another (including big game animal parts, processed meat, and/or gifts of big game that do not exceed the lawful possession limit) must be in possession of any applicable permits and all information from the proxy statement (see proxy form on page 49). The validated tag must remain attached to the carcass until the meat is processed. The validated tag must accompany the meat to the place of final storage or until final consumption.

- One fully-feathered wing or head must be left naturally attached to any dressed game bird (except turkey) and **Eurasian collared doves**; the beard or leg must be left naturally attached to turkey carcasses. Naturally-attached parts are needed so enforcement and management personnel are able to identify the species and sex of the birds in possession or being transported.
- Any package or container in which game species are being transported by common carrier must have the name, address, and hunting license number of the shipper, the name and address of the consignee, and an accurate statement of the species and number of each contained in the package or container clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside.
- No person shall give another any game species to possess or transport unless they also give the transporter a written proxy statement. (Proxy statement on page 49.)
- When a wild turkey is accompanied by a written statement as provided above and is being transported for another, it shall not be counted in the possession limit of the person transporting the wild turkey.

Hunters: Watch For Traps Set For Furbearers!

- Ask landowners if there are traps set on their land — and avoid them.
- If a hunting dog is accidentally caught in a trap, it should be removed carefully! Although usually not seriously harmed, a dog in a trap will be frightened and may bite. As gently as possible, cover the dog's head with a jacket, etc., and carefully remove the trap.

Bird Dog Training Permits

- A permit is required to train bird dogs on private/public lands (excluding licensed shooting preserves) when the release of artificially propagated upland game birds or waterfowl will be part of the training process. Permit applications are available at Fish and Game regional offices.
- A permit is required to sponsor/conduct any organized competitive dog trials/tests on private or public lands (excluding licensed shooting preserves) when artificially propagated game birds are used. The permit is required even if live birds are not used or released during the trial on Wildlife Management Area lands. Permit applications are available at Fish and Game regional offices.

Areas Closed to Hunting of Game Birds

Hunting, killing or molesting of any game bird is prohibited in the following areas:

- **Fort Boise Wildlife Management Area (refuge)** from September 15 through the end of waterfowl hunting

season in the following area: Beginning at the bridge across Sand Hollow Creek on Old Fort Boise Road about 100 yards west of the WMA headquarters, then north along the east bank of Sand Hollow Creek to its confluence with the Snake River, then north and northeast downstream along the east bank of the Snake River to the WMA boundary fence, then south and southeast along the WMA boundary fence to Old Fort Boise Road, then west on Old Fort Boise Road to the point of beginning.

- **Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve.** All lands contained within Craters of the Moon National Monument prior to the expansion of the park in November 2000 are closed to hunting. Contact the National Park Service (**208-527-1300 or www.nps.gov/crmo**) for a map indicating these boundaries. All other public lands within Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve are open to hunting.
- **Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument in Twin Falls County**, except that portion within an area 50 feet in elevation above the high water level of the Snake River. The upslope area is marked by yellow fiberglass markers, and hunting is permitted down slope to the river.
- **Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge in Fremont County.**
- **Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho, and Nez Perce counties.**
- **That portion of Ada County within Veterans Memorial Park and the area between State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue, and the Boise City limits.**
- **Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.**
- **Roswell Marsh Wildlife Habitat Area in Canyon County** on Sundays through Wednesdays from September 15 through the end of the waterfowl hunting season in the area south of Highway 18 and west of Pebble Lane (Roswell Marsh Segment).
- **Lewiston Nature Preserve in Nez Perce County.**
- **Myrtle Creek Reserve in Boundary County.**
- **Springfield Bird Reserve in Bingham County.**
- **Mann's Lake in Nez Perce County and extending 300 yards beyond the Bureau of Reclamation property line that encompasses the lake.**
- **On any of those portions of federal refuges, State game preserves, State Wildlife Management Areas, bird preserves, bird refuges, and bird sanctuaries for which hunting closures have been declared by legislative or Commission action.**

Areas Closed to Hunting of Upland Game Animals

Hunting, killing, or molesting upland game animals is prohibited in the following areas:

- Craters of the Moon National Monument. See page 51 for a full description.
- Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge in Fremont County.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho and Nez Perce counties.
- That portion of Ada County within Veterans Memorial Park and the area between State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue and the New York Canal from the New York Canal Diversion Dam downstream to the Boise City limits.
- Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.
- Mann's Lake in Nez Perce County and extending 300 yards beyond the Bureau of Reclamation property that encompasses the lake.
- On any of those portions of federal refuges, State game preserves, State wildlife management areas, bird preserves, bird refuges, and bird sanctuaries for which bird hunting closures have been declared by legislative or Commission action.

Trespass Law

No person may enter private land to hunt, fish or trap without permission if the land is either cultivated or posted with legible "No Trespassing" signs. **Proper posting means high visibility orange paint on 100 square inches for signs or on the top 18-inches of a metal fence post, or other notice of similar meaning.** Such signs, paint or notices should be posted every 660 feet around the property and at reasonable access points. It is unlawful for anyone to post public land that is not held under an exclusive control lease. Conviction of trespass on posted private property carries a mandatory one-year revocation of hunting/fishing/trapping licenses.

Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing, or trapping purposes.

State Park Rules

Certain types of hunting are allowed on some state parks. Please contact the state park you are interested in visiting to determine hunting opportunity.

Protection of Wildlife: All molesting, injuring or killing of any wild creature is strictly prohibited, except as provided by action of the Idaho State Parks and Recreation Board and as established in board policy. Persons in possession of wildlife, which may be legally taken within state park boundaries, must comply with Idaho Department of Fish and Game rules.

Personal Safety: No person may purposefully or negligently endanger the life of any person or creature within any land administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. No

person may discharge firearms or any other projectile firing devices within any lands administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation, except in the lawful defense of person, persons or property or in the course of lawful hunting, or for exhibition or at designated ranges as authorized by the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Indian-owned Lands and National Wildlife Refuges

Warning: Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing or trapping purposes (18 U.S. 1165).

Trapping on National Wildlife Refuges is under federal regulations by permit only, and steel shot may be required on certain refuges for some upland game species. Check with federal refuge manager.

Hunting of Predatory & Unprotected Animals

Some animals are classified as "predators" or as "unprotected" and can be hunted and taken all year. Animals classified as predators in Idaho include coyotes, raccoons, jackrabbits, skunks, weasels, and starling. The most frequently hunted unprotected animals include marmots, fox squirrels, porcupines and Columbian ground squirrels, English sparrows, Eurasian-collared doves, and feral pigeons. These species may be taken in any amounts and at any time by holders of the appropriate valid Idaho hunting, trapping or combination hunting license, provided such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances or regulations.

Protected Nongame Wildlife, Species of Special Concern, Threatened or Endangered Species, Protected Birds

Special classifications for some animals extend extra protection to those species. These animals cannot be hunted, taken or possessed. Threatened or endangered wildlife include caribou, Canada lynx, grizzly bear, and Northern Idaho ground squirrel. Protected nongame wildlife include red (pine) squirrel, wolverine, chipmunks, rock squirrel, Wyoming ground squirrel (nevadensis subspecies only), golden-mantled ground squirrel, Merriam's ground squirrel, Piute ground squirrel, pika, kit fox, northern flying squirrel, bats, Southern Idaho ground squirrel and migratory song birds. See page 48 for ground squirrel information.

All birds in Idaho are protected except starlings, Eurasian-collared doves, English sparrows and feral pigeons. Protected nongame birds cannot be hunted, taken or possessed (including parts of birds, even if found dead). All hawks, owls, eagles and vultures are protected. Game birds may be taken only in accordance with established hunting rules.

See Idaho Department of Fish and Game pamphlet for collecting, possessing, and importing amphibians and reptiles.